



HEBREW EXEGESIS: PROPHETS

OT 641

SYLLABUS

SPRING 2013
April 29-May1 Intensive

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The passion of Bethel Seminary is to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ among all people in culturally sensitive ways. As a Spirit-empowered, biblically grounded community of learning, Bethel strives to develop and equip whole and holy persons to serve and lead so that churches and ministry agencies can become all they are called to be and do in the world for the glory of God.

The objectives and assignments of HEBREW EXEGESIS are designed in light of that statement of mission and in light of the degree program aims appropriate to this course. In addition, each member of this learning enterprise is expected to set out personal objectives to pursue in their studies this term.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Hebrew Exegesis is designed to build on the Hebrew Language course sequence. Its goal is to amplify the benefits of learning and using biblical Hebrew by enhancing one's vocabulary and understanding of Hebrew syntax. The course provides practice of principles and methods of interpreting the Hebrew Bible. The focus is on exposition with an aim to apply the meaning of the text to personal spiritual development, doing "real-time" theology-teaching and preaching. Prerequisite: OT521, OT522 and OT531. Four hours.

COURSE BENEFITS

Upon completion of this course you should be able to

- ✓ demonstrate a grasp of "the trees" by
 - ✓ developing a working awareness of forms and functions of Hebrew syntax.
 - ✓ developing facility in Hebrew vocabulary.
 - ✓ effective use of key language tools.
- ✓ demonstrate a grasp of "the forest" by
 - ✓ stating the basic facts with respect to each book's setting, theme, and content. This is essential to the reflection required for teaching and preaching the "whole counsel of God." As St. Jerome (340?-420AD) claimed in the prologue to his commentary on Isaiah, "ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ."
 - ✓ tracing and synthesizing core theological themes through the Nevi'im in context of Torah and Kethuvim as well as

the New Testament. A good facility in biblical theology is essential to “doing” theology in contemporary settings.

- ✓ locating the historical/geographical/cultural setting of main events recorded in this portion of the Hebrew Bible. Whether in the pulpit, study group, or counsellor’s office, a clear exposition requires an understanding of the context of revelation.
- ✓ executing a working exegetical method in ways that positively impacts the ministry of the Word.
- ✓ demonstrating greater skill in interpreting the Scripture (including further developing your facility in Hebrew). This will benefit both you and all those to whom you minister.
- ✓ more effectively and faithfully applying the 77% of Scripture we call the Old Testament in life and ministry. This is critical because the whole Bible really is the Christ-follower’s Bible.

COURSE TEXTS

Primary literature:

Reader’s Hebrew Bible or *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*

Secondary literature

Required Texts:

Beecher, Willis J. *The Prophets and the Promise*. Eugene: Wipf & Stock, 2002. (*Abbrev. P&P in assignments*)

Chisholm, R. B., Jr. *From Exegesis to Exposition: A Practical Guide to Using Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999. (*Abbrev. FETE in assignments*)

Dillard, Raymond and Tremper Longman. *Introduction to the Old Testament*, 2 ed.. Grand nd Rapids: Zondervan, 2006. (*Abbrev. IOT in assignments*)

Recommended:

Koehler, Ludwig and Walter Baumgartner. *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Leiden: Brill, 2001. (*abbrev. HALOT in assignments*)

Williams, Ronald J. *Williams’ Hebrew Syntax*. 3rd ed. rev & exp. by J. C. Beckman. Toronto: Univ. Toronto, 2007 (*Abbrev. WHS in assignments*)

COURSE PROJECTS

Hebrew Reading Portfolio- Notes compiled from thoughtful execution of Chisolm’s seven steps on assigned passages.

Guide Sheets - A series of briefs designed to acquaint you with various Hebrew tools. Some include a brief exercise.

Exposition Plan - 13 unit teaching plan that covers sequence of passages within an extended section of text. Each unit will be comprised of 1) teaching passage (at least one paragraph), 2) the “big” idea of the passage, 3) theological principle derived from the development of the “big idea,” 4) working list of a range of applications

Expository Project - An exegetical research project focussed on one passage from the Exposition Plan which includes clause map and a one-page teaching outline aimed at a selected contemporary audience.

Scripture Memorization Project – Committing five passages to memory for the spiritual benefits as well as improving vocabulary, grammar and syntax skills by providing more context.

Integration Project - A 2000-2500 word essay in which you synthesize what you have learned in Hebrew Exegesis and integrate those learnings with what you have been learning in other components of the curriculum (Bible, theology, history, sociology, anthropology, global & contextual studies, spiritual formation, leadership, etc.). Devote the last 250-500 words to reflections on how your work has impacted you personally and areas you intend to follow-up. **N.b.**, This assignment has been identified as a required integrative assignment that you may wish to review and reference in future integrative coursework.”

Course Evaluation: The completion of a course evaluation is required to receive a final grade. An email with a link to the survey will be delivered on March 15 through the students' Bethel email account. A follow-up email will be sent March 23. The survey will be active from March 15-27. For further information see [Course Evaluation Information](#).

Submitting Assignments

Assignments are due by midnight Saturday. The Seminary Catalog stipulates: "students are expected to submit all work by the dates set by the course instructors and complete all course requirements on or before the last day of the quarter." **N.b.**, normally late work will not be accepted. (Circumstances that a congregation would accept for postponing a Sunday sermon may be considered with a reduction in grade) An *Incomplete Contract* may be approved for extenuating circumstances (not for simply getting behind in the assignments). Such exceptions may involve a grade reduction.

Written work is to be submitted via Moodle in either MSWord or Rich Text (rtf) format. **N.b.**, the filename given each assignment must follow a prescribed protocol. The filename will include *course number, term, your last name, and assignment name* (e.g., **ot641-sp13-yourname-assignmentname**). Documents submitted without this filenames protocol may not be registered and graded.

Miscellany:

- Academic Course Policies: Please familiarize yourself with the catalog requirements as specified in Academic Course Policies document found in Blackboard/Moodle. You are responsible for this information, and any academic violations, such as plagiarism, will not be tolerated.
- Attendance: Regular engagement in the class each week is an essential part of the learning enterprise. Being on-time for class sessions is a matter of respect. Unexcused absence and multiple tardiness will result in reduction of grade.
- Etiquette: Phones & beepers must be turned off during class. Tardiness & inappropriate behavior will result in reduction of grade. Tape recording is not permitted inasmuch as it can inhibit class participation. Men: hats off to you. ☺
- A summary of library resources may be found at <http://seminary.bethel.edu/library/research-help/bib-stud>
- **N.b.:** The professor may modify or otherwise supplement this syllabus and/or class instructions via Moodle or e-mail. Other course material is available on Moodle. It is the student's responsibility to avail herself or himself to such resources and check Moodle and/or their email for such notices.

Grading Rubric: See "Rubric for Assessment" under the "Assignments" tab on the course website.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

Class preparation & participation	
Discussion & participation	10%
Written assignments	
Portfolio	20%
Exposition Plan	20%
Exposition Project	20%
Scripture Memory	10%
Integration Project	20%

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Assignment due</i>
Week of Mar 25	Course Intro: Webinar (choice 3/25 1:30-2:30PM or 3/26 10-11 AM 10-11AM) Setting of the Prophets; Review Exegetical Method	Beecher, P&P, chs 4-11 Review FETE chs 3-8 Read Amos 5:1-17 aloud
Week of Apr 1	Amos 5:1-17 (exercise FETE pp.284-287)	Read <i>IOT</i> on Amos; FETE process notes. Incl. clause map in step 2; Guide to BHS ; Memorize Psalm 56:4-5
Week of Apr 8	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Read <i>IOT</i> on Isaiah; FETE process notes. Incl. clause map in step 2;; Guide to MT ; Guide to the Accent System;
Week of Apr 15	Jeremiah 31:27-40	Read <i>IOT</i> on Jeremiah; FETE process notes. Incl. clause map in step 2; Review FETE ch 9;; Study Guide to BHS Apparatus ; Memorize Joshua 1:5-9
Week of Apr 22	Intensive Week One	
Apr 28	At Home, 7PM - R.S.V.P. via email	1822 Tioga Blvd., New Brighton; 651-636-6369
Week of Apr 29	Intensive Week Two Prophets: Historical & Theological Setting; Hermeneutics Amos 5:1-17	
Tues	Guide to Even-Shoshan Isaiah 52:13-53:12 ;	
Wed.	Jeremiah 31:27-40;	Memorize Isaiah 43:1-3
Week of May 6	Expository teaching plan (13 weeks)	Teaching Plan;
Week of May 13	Exegetical research	Memorize Isaiah 46:3-4
Week of May 20	Expository Project	Expository Project;
Week of May 27	Integration Project	Memorize Jeremiah 9:23-24 Integration project ; Hebrew Reading Portfolio